

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the amendment above and the remarks below is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 16-18, 19 and 20 have been amended and claims 21-27 have been added. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-27 are pending and under active consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action the Examiner objected to the abstract because it exceeded 150 words. In this Amendment the abstract has been shortened to less than 150 words. Withdrawal of the abstract as now amended is respectfully requested.

In paragraph 2 of the outstanding Office Action the Examiner also objected to page 15, lines 21-23 in the disclosure because of an informality. This amendment has corrected what appears to be the objectionable matter. Withdrawal to the objection of the disclosure is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 which was objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim, has been rewritten in independent form and numbered as claim 23. Allowance of claim 23 is believed to be in order.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10 and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Kawanami et al. (U.S. Patent 4,544,984).

In support of the rejection the Examiner stated the following:

"Kawanami et al discloses a coaxial lightning arresting device and structure for use in protecting coaxial transmission lines and the like structures, which contains: an outer conductor 21 connected to and supported by metallic coaxial female connector portions 22 at opposite ends of the outer conductor and including a circular through

hole 23, a thin or elongated inner conductor 24 that is located to coaxially extend through the hole 23 of the outer conductor 21 and is supported at each end by one of the connector portions 22 via cylindrical or spool shaped dielectric members 25 that act as a support and separator, a gas filled arrester tube or GDT 6 is positioned on the inner conductor 24 with the lower electrode 7 electrically connected and the upper electrode 8 electrically connected to the outer conductor 21 mechanically through a spring washer 29 and a conductive cap 30, see Figures 4 and 5.

Additionally, Kawanami et al discloses a device with an arrester unit comprising a pair of arresters such that it can be used for a two-conductor transmission line, see Figure 2 and Col. 1, lines 27-31.

The impedance of the various portions of the coaxial structure, center or arrester section and connector sections are adjustable or tuneable via the screw cap 30, which effectively changes the capacitance and inductance of the coaxial structure. Also, dimensional changes to inner and outer conductors can change the characteristic impedances; see Col. 2, lines 10-68; Col. 3, lines 1-25; and Col. 4, lines 49-68.”

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As can be clearly seen in Figs. 4 and 5 in Kawanami, GDT 6 in Kawanami is mechanically in contact with inner conductor 24 at one end and at the other end is mechanically coupled through a spring washer 29 to a conductive cap 30 which is screwed onto the outer conductor 21.

In assembling the device in Kawanami, a GDT is first inserted into a through hole 26 in outer conductor 21, then, spring 29 is placed on top of GDT. Then cap 30 is placed over spring 29 and screwed onto conductor 21.

This is clearly not the structural arrangement in applicants device.

In applicant's device the spring is not pushing up against a removable screwed on cap, but rather, is pushing up against the inner sidewall of the housing itself. The inner sidewall of the housing in applicant's device does not have any opening which extends radially inward as in Kawanami et al. This is because in applicant's device the GDT is inserted into the housing from one end thereof and not through any radially inward opening in the housing. In Kawanami, the spring is not in contact with the inner sidewall of the housing. Instead, it is in contact with the screwed on cap.

Also, regarding claim 10, the center section of inner conductor 24 in Kawanami is not smaller in cross sectional diameter than the two outer sections. The center section in Kawanami appears to be at least as large as the two outer sections in cross-sectional diameter.

In addition, claim 16 calls for a protective device in which the GDT is soldered to the inner conductor. In Kawanami et al. the GDT is clearly not soldered to inner conductor 6. In fact, it cannot be fixedly secured in any way to inner conductor 6.

Accordingly, at least for the reasons noted above, claims 1-4, 6-8, 10 and 16-20 are not anticipated by Kawanami. Therefore, the rejection under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Kawanami should be withdrawn.

Claims 5 and 11-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawanami et al in view of Chaudhry et al and Pagliuca.

In support of the rejection the Examiner stated as follows:

"Kawanami et al teaches all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejection of claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 16-20 except for the use of male connectors and an elongated

center pin with a uniform diameter throughout.

Chaudhry et al discloses a coaxial surge arrester with various insulator and connector configurations including male connectors, see Figure 33 and Col. 13, lines 20-25, and an elongated, uniform center conductor, see figure 30; and several different insulator configurations 204, 410, 430, and 416.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Kawanami et al by the teachings of Chaudhry et al to use male or "female" connectors as the choice of coaxial connectors interchangeably in a design.

Pagliuca discloses the use of an elongated pin, uniform in cross-sectional diameter throughout its entire length 26, Figure 2.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Kawanami et al by the teachings of Pagliuca to include a center pin of uniform diameter to provide a consistent transmission path with minimal return loss when mated to a coaxial cable."

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

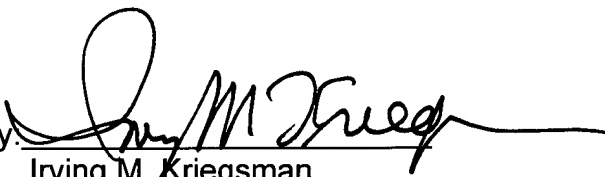
The defects noted above in Kawanami are not overcome by the addition of Chaudhry et al and Pagliuca for the reasons noted by the Examiner. Also, in Pagliuca the pin does not extend along the entire length of the device. Accordingly, for at least the reasons noted above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6 and 11-15 under the three cited references is respectfully urged.

Allowance of the application with claims 1-27 is earnestly solicited.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

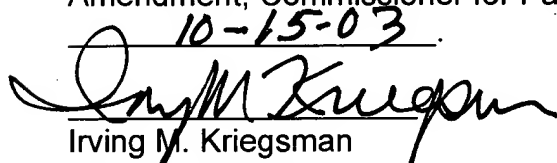
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 10-15-03

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

10-15-03

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